

D. Remarks

Claims 1-20 are currently pending in this application. Applicant has amended claims 1-6, 8-13, and 16-20 so as to clarify and more particularly indicate the claimed subject matter. The amendments are made for the purpose of expediting prosecution and not in response to any ground or reason of patentability presented by the USPTO. In view of the following Remarks reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Information Disclosure Statement

Applicant thanks the Examiner for considering the references cited in the information disclosure statements submitted on 5/22/02 and 11/19/02, as acknowledged by the signed PTO-1449 form.

Drawings

Applicant acknowledges Examiner's comments regarding filing of formal corrected drawings upon allowance.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 9, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,835,919 to Stern et al. ("Stern"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 9 has been amended to recite, among other things, the feature of an input interface to accept "input to deselect at least one portion of the continuous target information region to form at least two associated noncontiguous target information

regions" and the feature of processing "the at least two associated noncontiguous target information regions." Stern does not disclose or suggest such features.

Rather, Stern relates to the creation and manipulation of compound documents, which are documents that are formed by two or more programs (e.g., a graphical document and a text document) that are used to produce a single document. In particular, Stern relates to the use of a consistent user interface in order to manipulate data associated with each of the different program documents that make up a compound document. Stern does not disclose or suggest the features of receiving an input to deselect at least one portion of the continuous target information region to form at least two associated noncontiguous target information regions and processing the at least two associated noncontiguous target information regions. Thus, Stern is at least deficient for not disclosing these features. In fact, the Examiner acknowledges this point in his rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103 stating that Stern does not disclose deselecting selected portions of text (see page 4, last paragraph of the Office Action). For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 9 is patentably distinguishable over Stern.

Claims 13 and 15 depend from and add additional features to independent claim 9 and therefore are patentable by virtue of their dependency. For at least the above reasons, Applicant request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of claims 9, 13, and 15.

Rejection of Claims Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-2, 5-8, 10, 14, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S. C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stern in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,664,210 to Fleming et al.

("Fleming"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claims 1,16 and 17 are amended to include the features of forming at least two associated noncontiguous target information regions from a continuous target information region. The Examiner acknowledges that Stern does not explicitly disclose "deselect (sic) the information separating region" and relies on Fleming to teach "deselect selected portions of text." Fleming at best only teaches to deselect all selections or to deselect all selections other than the selection just made (see col. 2, lines 27-28). Further, Fleming only teaches to create each selected region one region at a time (see col. 4, line 63 to col. 5, line 4) and does not teach or suggest to form at least two associated noncontiguous regions from a single continuous region. Neither Stern nor Fleming taken alone or in combination teaches or suggests to form at least two associated noncontiguous target information regions from a single continuous target information region. Thus, Stern and Fleming are at least deficient for not teaching or suggesting such features.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 16 and 17 are patentably distinguishable over Stern in view of Fleming. Furthermore, dependent claims 2, 5-8, 14 and 18 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

Claims 3-4, 11-12 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being obvious over Stern in view of Fleming and U.S. Patent No. 5,666,552 to Greyson et al. ("Greyson"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claims 3-4, 11-12 and 19-20 depend from impendent claims 1, 9 and 17. As discussed above, neither Stern nor Fleming, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features for independent claims 1, 9 and 17. Further, Greyson does not overcome the deficiencies of Stern and Fleming. Greyson discloses selecting a block of text that is defined by initial and final selection points and allowing users to view the block while the block is being moved anywhere in the display screen or as it is being manipulated. For at least these reasons, claims 3-4, 11-12 and 19-20 are patentably distinguishable over Stern in view of Fleming and Greyson at least by virtue of their dependency.

For at least the above reasons, Applicant request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection of claims 1-8, 10-12, 14, and 16-20.



CONCLUSION

Applicant believes that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number provided.

Dated: July 10, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James J. Namiki".

James J. Namiki
Registration No.: 51,148
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS, GLOVSKY AND
POPEO P.C.
12010 Sunset Hills Road, Suite 900
Reston, Virginia 20190
703-464-8140



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